

1 FLOOR COMMITTEE 01: MISSION DEVELOPMENT(MD)

2 *Resolutions for the 2022 Convention of the Southeastern District, LCMS*

3  
4 **MD 01-22-01A To Declare a Year of Jubilee - A Season of Celebration and**  
5 **Sending**

6 *(Overtures: MD 01-22-01; MD 01-22-02)*

7  
8 **WHEREAS**, The priesthood of all believers have been given the gift of the Holy Spirit to  
9 carry out the Great Commission to go into all the world; and

10  
11 **WHEREAS**, The vision of the Southeastern District (SED) is to connect our neighbors to  
12 Jesus so that lives are transformed and God's Kingdom grows; and

13  
14 **WHEREAS**, The SED has made available through book and video means the published  
15 resource The Great Sending – God's Heart Beating Through You; and

16  
17 **WHEREAS**, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) in Convention in 2019  
18 established seven mission priorities; therefore be it

19  
20 **RESOLVED**, The SED continue to support the seven priorities identified at the 2019  
21 LCMS Convention:

- 22 1. Plant, sustain, and revitalize Lutheran churches;
- 23 2. Support and expand theological education;
- 24 3. Perform human care in close proximity to Word and Sacrament ministries;
- 25 4. Promote and nurture the spiritual, emotional, financial, and physical wellbeing
- 26 of pastors and professional church workers;
- 27 5. Collaborate with the Synod's members and partners to enhance mission
- 28 effectiveness;
- 29 6. Enhance early childhood education, elementary and secondary education, and
- 30 youth ministry; and
- 31 7. Strengthen and support the Lutheran family in living out God's design; and be
- 32 it further

33  
34 **RESOLVED**, That the SED in Convention declares the 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the District as  
35 a year of Jubilee, a season of celebration and sending, where congregations, schools,  
36 and service organizations focus on the Great Sending; and be it finally

37  
38 **RESOLVED**, That the President of the SED work with congregations to provide resources  
39 and guidance for the Jubilee.



41 **MD 01-22-03A To Conduct a Southeastern District Staffing and Facility Study**  
42 *(Overture MD-01-22-03)*

43  
44 **WHEREAS**, The harvest is plentiful as 10% of the nation's population lives within the  
45 borders of the Southeastern District (SED); and  
46

47 **WHEREAS**, The COVID-19 Pandemic has provided churches and schools unique  
48 opportunities to utilize technologies and resources in different ways in order to do  
49 ministries; and  
50

51 **WHEREAS**, The use of technology may allow the SED to reach and expand in new ways  
52 across a geographically, ethnically, and culturally diverse District; therefore be it  
53

54 **RESOLVED**, That the SED President appoint a task force to conduct a study of district  
55 staffing and facility needs in order to promote the vision of the SED and support and  
56 empower congregations, schools and other ministries; and be it further  
57

58 **RESOLVED**, That the President present the SED Board of Directors with its findings  
59 before the next SED Convention; and be it finally  
60

61 **RESOLVED**, That the SED President present findings of the report and any action taken  
62 from the report to the next convention.  
63  
64  
65



66 **BL 04-22-03 A To Bring Southeastern District Bylaws into Harmony**  
67 **with the Constitution, Bylaws, and Resolutions of the Synod**  
68 *(Overture BL 04-22-03)*  
69

70 **WHEREAS**, The 2019 Convention of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod made  
71 several changes to the Synod’s Constitution and Bylaws which were subsequently ratified  
72 by the congregations of the Synod; and  
73

74 **WHEREAS**, Synod Bylaw 4.1.1.2 (a) requires that the Bylaws of the districts of the Synod  
75 not conflict with the Constitution and Bylaws of Synod; and  
76

77 **WHEREAS**, A review of the Southeastern District, LCMS (SED) Bylaws by the District  
78 Board of Directors (BOD) disclosed several instances where the District’s Bylaws needed  
79 to be brought into harmony with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Synod; and  
80

81 **WHEREAS**, Synod Bylaws 3.9.2.2.3 and 4.1.1.2 (b) require districts of the Synod to  
82 submit all changes to the Commission on Constitutional Matters (CCM) for examination  
83 to ascertain that they are in harmony with the Constitution, Bylaws, and resolutions of the  
84 Synod; and  
85

86 **WHEREAS**, In response to the SED BOD submission of proposed changes in  
87 accordance with Synod Bylaws 3.9.2.2.3 and 4.1.1.2 (b), the CCM issued its Opinion on  
88 April 27, 2022 recommending that certain further changes be made to bring the SED  
89 Bylaws into harmony; therefore be it  
90

91 **RESOLVED**, That Article V.2.a of the Bylaws of the SED be amended as follows:

- 92 a. Each voting congregation of the District shall be entitled to nominate from the  
93 minister of religion-ordained roster of the Synod two (2) persons for the office  
94 of District President. Congregations shall also be entitled to nominate two (2)  
95 persons for all other positions to be filled. Nominations for offices designated  
96 for ministers of religion-ordained or ministers of religion-commissioned must be  
97 made from the appropriate roster and according to ~~residence~~ **their**  
98 **congregational membership** within the District or region as required. Lay  
99 nominations must also be made according to ~~residence~~ **their congregational**  
100 **membership** within the District or region as required. **Mid-term board**  
101 **members selected regionally, who find themselves residing in a**  
102 **designated region other than that of their election because regional**  
103 **designation was changed by the District may finish out their current**  
104 **terms of office.**

105 and be it,  
106

107 **RESOLVED**, That Article V.3.a of the Bylaws of the SED be amended as follows:

- 108 a. Vice Presidents shall be nominated by congregations within the defined District  
109 region in which they ~~will reside and~~ serve, if elected. In addition, nominees will  
110 be from among those on the minister of religion-ordained roster of the  
111 respective District region.



112 and be it

113  
114 **RESOLVED**, That Article V.3.c of the Bylaws of the SED be amended as follows:

115 b. Following **Upon** the election of the **regional** Vice Presidents a **final** separate  
116 election **will take place ranking the Vice Presidents by separate ballots**  
117 **with a simple majority of voting delegates determining the second and**  
118 **third Vice Presidents in line of succession.** ~~by the convention delegates~~  
119 ~~shall be held to determine the ranking of the Vice Presidents.~~  
120 and be it

121  
122 **RESOLVED**, that Article V.4.c of the Bylaws of the SED be amended as follows:

123 c. Candidates receiving a majority on the first ballot shall be declared elected. In  
124 the election of the President and Vice Presidents, if no candidate receives a  
125 majority of the votes cast, the candidate receiving the least number of votes is  
126 to be eliminated from each successive ballot until one candidate has received  
127 a majority vote. In all other elections when a second or succeeding ballot is  
128 required for a majority, the candidate receiving the fewest votes and all  
129 candidates receiving less than 15% of the votes cast shall be dropped from the  
130 ballot, unless fewer than two candidates receive 15% or more of the votes cast,  
131 in which case the three highest candidates shall constitute the ballot. In every  
132 election, balloting shall continue until every position has been filled by majority  
133 vote.  
134 and be it

135  
136 **RESOLVED**, That Article VI.1 be amended as follows:

137 1. The President, **an officer of the district,** ~~is shall be~~ the chief executive officer  
138 of the District and serves as a voting member of the Board of Directors. The  
139 President shall also perform the duties of a District President, **serving as the**  
140 **ecclesiastical supervisor of all rostered workers in the district,** under the  
141 Constitution and Bylaws of Synod. The President shall be a full-time, salaried  
142 official of the district, and the President (except one called to fill an unexpired  
143 term of less than 18 months) may not serve as a Pastor of a congregation.

144  
145 **RESOLVED**, That Article VII.4 of the Bylaws of the SED be amended as follows:

146 1. Each member congregation of a Circuit shall be entitled to notice of and representation  
147 at a meeting of its Circuit. **Multi-congregation parishes are represented by one**  
148 **voting pastoral delegate (if not vacant) and one voting lay delegate, plus an**  
149 **advisory delegate for each congregation that does not supply a voting delegate.**  
150 ~~but~~ **Each** Circuit shall establish its own organization to achieve its objectives and to  
151 meet its responsibilities in and to the Circuit, the District, and the Synod.  
152 and be it finally

153  
154 **RESOLVED**, That Article X of the Bylaws of the SED be amended as follows with a new  
155 X.4 and the current X.4 renumbered to X.5.

156  
157 1. These Bylaws may be amended at a District Convention by the majority vote of  
158 those members present at a regular session, provided there is written notice to



- 159 congregations concerning the proposed amendment 30 days in advance of the  
160 Convention.
- 161 2. The Board of Directors shall submit proposed amendments to the Synod's  
162 Commission on Constitutional Matters to ensure they are not inconsistent with the  
163 Constitution and Bylaws of the Synod prior to consideration by the District  
164 Convention. The Board of Directors will also obtain legal guidance to ensure that  
165 any proposed amendments are not inconsistent with the laws of the District of  
166 Columbia.
- 167 3. In the event an amendment is approved by the District in Convention without prior  
168 approval of the Synod's Commission on Constitutional Matters, such amendment  
169 will be contingent on approval of the Commission on Constitutional Matters. The  
170 amended articles or bylaws shall become effective immediately upon, and only  
171 upon, approval of the Commission on Constitutional Matters. Should the  
172 Commission on Constitutional Matters not approve the adopted changes, the  
173 District Board of Directors may modify the amendments to comply with the  
174 Commission on Constitutional Matters' requirements upon their two-thirds vote.
- 175 4. **When necessitated by amendments to the Synod Constitution or Bylaws or**  
176 **otherwise expressly directed by a resolution of the Synod in convention,**  
177 **amendments may be made by a two-thirds majority of the District Board of**  
178 **Directors. Such amendment shall be drafted by the Board of Directors Policy**  
179 **Committee and shall be reviewed in advance by the LCMS Commission on**  
180 **Constitutional Matters.**
- 181 5. Amendments to the District Articles of Incorporation shall be approved by a District  
182 Convention. The provisions and processes for such amendments shall be the  
183 same as for amendments to the Bylaws.  
184



185 **BL 04-22-06A To Strengthen the Nonvoting Advisory Delegate Participation**  
186 **at Conventions**

187 (*Overture BL 04-22-10*)  
188

189 **WHEREAS**, Currently, there are 12,010 Ministers of Religion – Commissioned (Church  
190 Worker Update System - March 2021) who serve the mission and ministry of  
191 congregations, schools, child development centers, camps, compassion centers, and  
192 mission work throughout the national and global mission fields; and  
193

194 **WHEREAS**, The current structure of the Synod does not allow for a third category of  
195 voting delegates at district and Synod conventions (Synod Handbook: Article IX, Article  
196 XII.10.b); and  
197

198 **WHEREAS**, The Synod highly values Ministers of Religion – Commissioned for their  
199 eagerness to serve the Lord and His Church (2019 Resolution. 9-17, “To Study Voting  
200 Privilege in the LCMS” p.201 of 2019 LCMS Convention Proceedings); and  
201

202 **WHEREAS**, Ministers of Religion – Commissioned are considered Advisory Members  
203 with representation, voice, but no vote at conventions of districts and Synod, along with  
204 “those ordained ministers not eligible for election as a voting delegate” under Bylaw  
205 3.1.2.1(d) ... (p,101 Handbook 2019) with representation, voice, but no vote at  
206 conventions of districts and Synod; and  
207

208 **WHEREAS**, At least one other district (Northern Illinois) utilizes the voice and guidance  
209 of their Ministers of Religion – Commissioned in district convention through a non-binding  
210 advisory member vote; and  
211

212 **WHEREAS**, This honors the bylaw and structure of the Convention while allowing the  
213 Nonvoting Advisory Delegate voice to be heard and their vote recognized; therefore, be  
214 it  
215

216 **RESOLVED**, That the Southeastern District enable Nonvoting Advisory Delegates to  
217 provide a preliminary non-binding vote during its regular convention, and be it further  
218

219 **RESOLVED**, That the results of the preliminary non-binding vote be published prior to the  
220 delegate vote; and be it further  
221

222 **RESOLVED**, That this become effective with the next District Convention in 2025, and be  
223 it finally  
224

225 **RESOLVED**, That the Southeastern District in Convention memorialize the Lutheran  
226 Church—Missouri Synod in Convention to pass a like-minded resolution.  
227

